

BENT RIM BUGLE

Vol. 7 No. 4 1993 - 1994

A Publication of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association



M-DNR Trails Update ...

Info and Perspectives from the M-DNR and others

"Have you ever read a book and come away feeling that you knew exactly what it said--until you talked with someone else who had read the same book but had a completely different understanding?

That's the experience many people had when reading the legislation designating Grand Island as a National Recreation Area (NRA)."

The quote above is how the Summer issue of *Full Circle*, the newsletter of the Munising Ranger District of the National Forest Service began in July of 1993. The "book" was about the much celebrated Grand Island. The November issue of *Full Circle*, included these words "modifications occurred across all the alternatives." These "alternatives" were explained in recent issues of the Bent Rim Bugle and Michigan Cyclist Magazines.

So just what is Grand Island really all about? Check out the article on page 15. If the planners were to use this article as their guide the planning might already be done. The article captures the spirit of the island and shows a clear path towards its development. Read it - then write the Munising Ranger District at RR2, Box 400, Munising, Michigan 49862 - (906) 387-2512.

DNR Dollars: Mountain Biking Trails Paved In Gold

A meeting between DNR officials, Park Managers and MMBA Chapter presidents and members at the end of October resulted in some very interesting commitments by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The meeting was set up as a means of evaluating the mountain biking objectives and opportunities within our state parks and recreation areas. O.J. Scherschligt, Chief of Recreation and Robert Ingraham, Regional Director met with the MMBA at Island Lakes Recreation area hosted by the Park Manager, Joanne Stritmater.

The MMBA, under the leadership of Dennis Hansen and in cooperation with the Park Manager, had been reclaiming trails in Island Lake all summer long, that had been lost to neglect and abuse for the last several years. Park use has been rising over the past several years. This year the numbers of riders according to Manager Stritmater have been growing strong all summer long.

Getting on mountain bikes and heading on down the trail, Chief Scherschligt and Director Ingraham, the Park Manager and MMBA members set off to see what Dennis and members of the Mid-Michigan, Southeast and Potawatomi Chapters had been doing over a period of several summer and fall weekends. One of the most notable sights was where Dennis, and his crew repaired a washed-out downhill with a fabric called GEO-WEB. Since the product's installation early in 1993, there have been many thousands of trails users on the repaired portion of the trail. The DNR officials were impressed with its performance and the Park Manager was happy that the site was repaired once and for all. Before the afternoon was over, the DNR put in several miles on the mountain bikes provided to them by the MMBA, riding on singletrack, up and down hills and two-tracks.

Back at the Headquarters

PLEASE RECYCLE, ONLY YOU CAN MAKE IT WORK.



MMBA Responsibility Code

1. Always yield the right of way to other trail users.
2. Slow down and pass with care (or stop).
3. Control your speed at all times.
4. Stay on designated trails
5. Don't disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. Pack out litter.
7. Respect public and private property.
8. Know local rules.
9. Plan ahead.
10. Avoid riding in large groups.
11. Minimize impact.
12. Report incidents of trail impasse to local park authorities.

Rolling In The Dirt



Complied and/or written by Dwain Abramowski

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY - 1994

Last Year more than 2,000 events and three quarters of a million participants joined the National Trails Day celebration that was held nationwide. The tally of events counted about 2,500 organizations that took part in the events, with many more events and participants missing from the tally because they didn't notify the National Trails Day coordinators.

According to a National Trails Day (NTD) publication, "By any standard, the first National Trails Day reached or surpassed original expectations, especially its goal of promoting partnerships. More than 400 outdoor retail establishments participated by promoting NTD events, trail education and, in many cases, by participating in local trail projects on June 5, 1993."

National Trails Day '93 Numbers

NTD Events - 2,000

Participants - 750,000

Participating Organizations - 2,500

States in which NTD events were held, 50. Plus the Districts of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Canada.

Governor's Proclamations - 25

Members of U.S. Congress participating -100.

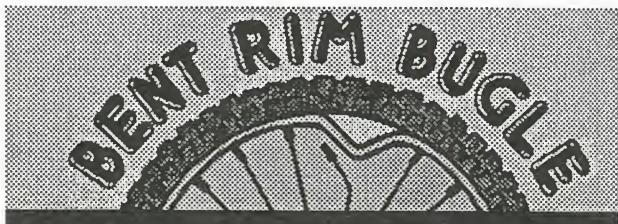
Many MMBA members have informed the MMBA that they felt that this was a worthwhile endeavor and that we should be involved in it. NTD will be held on June 4, in 1994. The MMBA is looking for a member(s) who would like to spearhead our involvement in this years event. If you are that person contact the MMBA at (616) 784-9327 or write the American Hiking Society, P.O. Box 20160, Washington, DC 20041-2160.

Question: Where did Odysseus live?

Answer: Anywhere he wanted, he was a Greek God.

However, being a trendy type of supernatural being and somewhat of a loner, he settled down in Ithaca, an island off Greece, in the Ionian group. He was a leader in the Trojan war and a hero of the Odyssey. The peaceful seashore surroundings helped him chill out, until the next deity bash of the ancient history socialites. Now, a millennium or two later, a city that bears the name of his homeland is embarking on an odyssey of its own. Ithaca, Michigan is developing a mountain biking/multi-use recreational park.

(DNR continued on pg.19)



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Special thanks to Castelli Publications

&

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Cued Up: Frozen House

Racer of the Month:

John Dohan hits the comeback trail at the Ice-man!

Material Provided By

"Our Mother Earth"

Use them wisely and recycle.

This magazine is printed on recycled paper.

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NEXT BRB DEADLINE

Get it to me in 1994

Dirty Notes

Ms. Shirley Johnson
Crystal Mountain Resort
Dear Ms. Johnson:

It was good talking to you about mountain bike use and the North Country Trail. We look forward to working with you and your organization on mountain bike issues and opportunities.

We also discussed the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness and the fact that it is closed to mechanized equipment, such as cycles. Enclosed is a brochure about the Wilderness along with a map. We appreciate your offer to help spread the word about the area being off-limits to bikes. That will be a big help to us in the administration of the Wilderness.

Sincerely
Gary W. Cole
District Ranger/Huron-Manistee National Forest



SPECIALIZED.

**Thank You to
Specialized who
was our Sponsor for
the 1993 MMBA
Points Series**

Keep Out. Period. (Please read letter above also...)

No matter how you look at it, there are some things that can only be looked at one way at certain points in time. At this time, if a place is a federally designated wilderness it is off limits to mountain biking. Period. One such place in Michigan is the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness. It is located 12 miles southwest of Manistee County, Michigan. According to Gary W. Cole, District Ranger of the Huron-Manistee National Forests, "the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness is closed to mechanized equipment, such as bicycles...we would appreciate your help to spread the word about the area being off-limits to bikes."

Stay out. We have things like the entire 3000 mile North Country Trail and thousands of miles of State Forest trails riding on the fact of whether or not we mountain bikers can follow the rules or not.

There is no reason to be riding in this wilderness. The Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness area is a place to get away from it all. The dunes area is small, about 3,000 acres. It is the only federally designated wilderness in Michigan's lower peninsula. Most of the dunes are 3,500 to 4,000 years old and some stand about 140 feet high. The Nordhouse Dunes are interspersed with woody vegetation such as juniper, jack pine and hemlock. Small water holes and marshes decorate the area and dune grass covers many of the dunes. In other words it's a lot of sand. You and your bike do not need it. If you need more information or have a question you can contact:

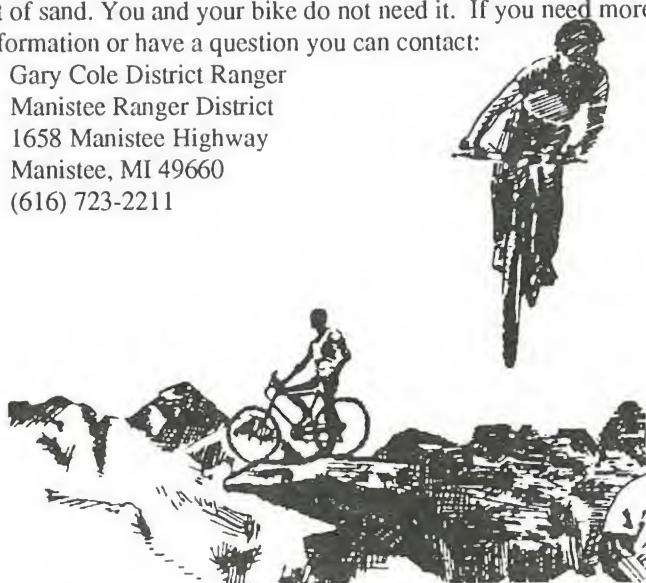
Gary Cole District Ranger
Manistee Ranger District
1658 Manistee Highway
Manistee, MI 49660
(616) 723-2211

BENT RIM BUGLE PUBLISHING INFO

The Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) is published 4 times a year (quarterly) Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The BRB is the source for news and information for the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). Articles come from MMBA members, MMBA Chapter Presidents, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other sources. The focus of the BRB is on what is of interest to MMBA members as well as environmental issues, land access, mountain biking events, rides, competition and other activities and information related to the mountain biking.

Editorial contributions and photos are welcomed, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by proper postage. Send contributions to: MMBA/BRB P.O. Box 29, Belmont MI 49306. The BRB also can provide classified ads to MMBA members for free and advertising space to shops and manufacturers. For deadlines and rates contact the address above or call, (616) 784-9327.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, and/or MMBA members, Dealers, or Sponsors. In other words, lighten-up it's mountain biking not world hunger...



North Country Trail Volunteers

North Country Trail As Seen By Senator Carl Levin

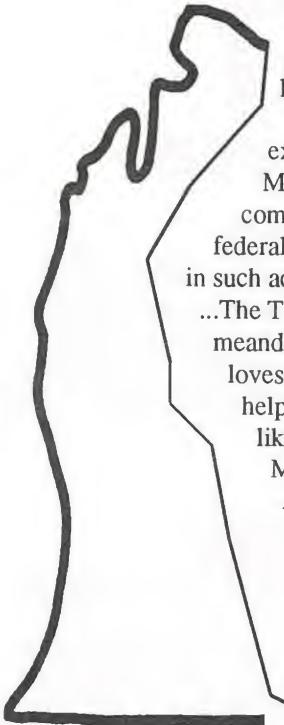
Dear Friend: When I first Heard about the North Country National Scenic Trail, I was taken with the imagination of the project. It is a dream that links a generation of volunteers, hikers and nature lovers over the decades of time.

The North Country Trail is the longest non-motorized hiking trail in the United States. It will extend 3,200 miles from New York State to North Dakota, meandering the length and width of Michigan. Almost 500 of 875 or so miles of trail that are to run through Michigan are already complete...The North Country Trails is developed and maintained through cooperative efforts among federal, state and local groups, making it a truly grassroots endeavor...Trail club members are interested in such activities as trail hikes, trail building, orienteering and camping trips.

...The Trail will enter Michigan south of Adrian, running roughly northwest toward Grand Rapids before meandering north to the Mackinaw Bridge...If, like me, you are a hiking enthusiast, or just someone who loves natural beauty, I hope you will take an interest in the development of the North Country Trail and help in its completion. There are two regional North Country Trail affiliates in Michigan. If you would like more information on these groups, or would like to start your own club, Please contact Thad McCollum of my Alpena office: 145 Water Street, Alpena, MI 49707 or call 517-354-5520

Editors Note: You may have noticed that the word mountain biking never comes up in Mr. Levin's letter to the members of the North Country Trail and interested persons who live on the trail. The only way it will come up is if mountain bikers become a force. A force that is helping to shape, maintain and financially contribute to the trail. Those of you who know the North Country Trail - know it is worth it. If you even think that one day you'd like to take your family out for a ride on it, then it will someday be worth it to you.

Join the North Country Trail association, write Carl Levin/Thad McCollum and let them know you're ready to make it happen by volunteering and caring for the trail.



M.O.R.B.A.- M.O.R. What?

MORBA, is the Michigan Off-Road Bike Association.

On Dec 12, 1993 the first meeting of the NORBA promoters in Michigan gathered in Lansing, Michigan. Their goals as stated in a letter sent out by Dale Hughes, Chairman of NORBA and Bob McLain one of the Promoters of the NORBA Nationals Finals held last August, read this way:

"The object is to create an association of NORBA's Michigan promoters, thus the name - Michigan Off-Road Bike Association.

Goals:

1. Recognition by NORBA as the "OFFICIAL" association in Michigan.
2. Recognition by NORBA of MORBA's structure and goals.
3. Create a calendar of NORBA events in Michigan.
4. Recommend to NORBA the structure of Michigan's State Point Series and/or State Championship.

5. Establish a NORBA Officials clinic in the spring of 1994.

6. Begin development of NORBA's Mt. Bike Patrol program in Michigan.

7. Work with NORBA to further the development of Mt. Biking - competitively, recreationally and environmentally."

According to a conversation I had with Dale Hughes after the December 12 meeting, there were several promoters in attendance as well as a large number of MMBA members. There was a wide variety of discussion about MORBA's goals, the needs of both NORBA and Non-NORBA promoters and the affect MORBA may have on the work and development of the MMBA.

I discussed these issues at length with Dale Hughes and though not all my questions and concerns about MORBA and the MMBA's relationship

were answered. I did receive a commitment from Dale Hughes that NORBA would support the MMBA in 1994.

You too, will have the opportunity to ask Dale Hughes about what MORBA might mean to you as MMBA members and your mountain biking world in the state of Michigan at our 1994 Annual meeting on February 6, in the Kellogg Center at 2:00 PM in the Lincoln Room. Dale Hughes will be there to "explain" MORBA's position and address, questions or concerns you might have about MORBA and the MMBA. You can also write him at: Dale Hughes, NORBA Chairman, 145 South Livernois - Suite 199 Rochester, Michigan 48307.





Thank you *Specialized* for your support of IMBA and the MMBA. For the story on *Specialized* and their support of the MMBA, see page 8 in this issue of the BRB.

International Dirt - IMBA Info

MMBA WINS "MODEL PROGRAM AWARD"

At the 1994 INTER-BIKE show in Las Vegas, Nevada the Michigan Mountain Biking Association was honored as an "IMBA Model Program" by the International Mountain Biking Association.

IMBA saluted the "MMBA for its state and regional chapter structure which promotes mountain bicycling opportunities through the environmentally and socially responsible use of the land."

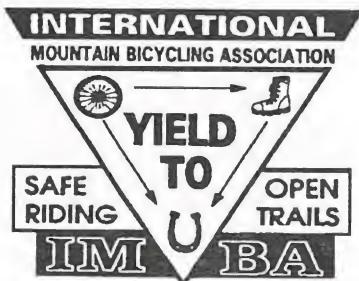
Also receiving awards at the INTERBIKE show: Director of the US Bureau of Land Management, Bob Moore of Colorado, Heidi Davis of the New England Mountain Bike Association, Ross Blasman of the Concerned Off Road Bicyclist's Association of Los Angeles, Marilyn Price of Trips for Kids (sponsored by the Bicycle Trails Council of Marin and Sierra Club Inner City Outings). The "IMBA Model Program Award" was accepted on behalf of the MMBA by, Dwain Abramowski President and Executive Director of the MMBA, who was sent out to the program to receive it by the MMBA Board of Directors.

The plaque will be on display at the 1994 MMBA Annual Meeting on February 6, at 2:00 PM in the Kellogg Center on the Campus of Michigan State University, in the Lincoln Room. Also a poster of the award will be sent to each MMBA member shop as so as a sponsor steps up to pay the cost of printing and shipping the posters to celebrate what our members, shops and promoters have accomplished. The poster is a must. We have to get the word out to the public celebrating what we've done and all we need to do. The cost is about \$150.00 to sponsor the project.

We know who the "Model Programs" are out there. But ho are the "Model Sponsors"?



Tim Blumenthal Executive Director (left) of IMBA with Dwain Abramowski receiving the "Model Program Award" for the MMBA at 1994 INTERBIKE show in Las Vegas



IMBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

A non-profit, volunteer group. IMBA's goal is to keep public lands open for recreational enjoyment of responsible mountain bicyclists. We publish *IMBA Trail News* as a means of keeping members informed of current issues and events. Donations above \$9 are tax deductible.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PRICES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Membership	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Member of Affiliated Club	12
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Donation	25
<input type="checkbox"/> Clubs	30
<input type="checkbox"/> Dealers	60 or 150 or 1000
<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturers	100 or 300 or 1000
<input type="checkbox"/> additional donation for IMBA's programs	

Canada/Mexico add \$5 for mailing. Outside North America add \$10 for mailing.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Make payment to IMBA; mail to PO Box 412043, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

Humus from - RIDE Inc.

(The mountain biking organization meeting the needs of riders in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota and Iowa)

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is planning to spend \$150,000 to redevelop the trails in the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest, to improve them for off-road bicycling. Just two years ago, the Wisconsin DNR was talking about banning bikes from these same trails.

State and federal funds will pay for half the project. The other \$75,000 must come from private sources. RIDE, Recreation for Individuals Dedicated to the Environment, the Midwest mountain bike advocacy group, is planning the fund-raising. The DNR will help the club sponsor events such as rides or a race to raise money. Midwest manufacturers, dealers and clubs will help with raffles and product sales.

Down in Illinois, RIDE has accepted an invitation from the Nature Conservancy for a tour of ecosystems of the Palos Hills area southwest of Chicago. It's the metro area's best off-road cycling, and it's environmentally fragile. Officials of RIDE say they're excited about the tour. "I've long said that our RIDE members are of the same family as those of the Sierra Club and Nature Conservancy," said RIDE President Carl Birkelbach. "We love the outdoors and we love to ride our bikes in nature settings. Therefore, we do care about the preservation of these areas."

Birkelbach became a member of the IMBA Board of Directors in September. *IMBA Trail News*

For more information on RIDE, contact: RIDE, 208 LaSalle-Suite 1808, Chicago, IL 60604-1103.

Here's a quote for you from a magazine that was talking about an upcoming road race, "...Because most people will be watching the races rather than riding in them a few tips might make watching even more enjoyable..."

Yea right, Tip 1:
Get a mountain bike where more people are riding in the races than watching...

A Little Dirt From Everywhere Else...

A '93 Ride For Meg and Brian Means '94 Fun For You...

A review by Meg and Brian Delaney - Former Potawatomi Chapter Officers

Searchmont is a ski area in the heart of Agawa Canyon. In the off season it hosts a variety of activities including mountain biking, hiking, and believe it or not, a circus camp. The resort accommodates up to 1000 people on a ski weekend; use of these facilities during the off season to explore Ontario's wilderness on your bike is the option in the spring, summer and fall.

There are several trail maps available at the lodge. They cater to a wide range of riding abilities. This includes anything from recreational family riding to full day treks. A family ride is mostly grassy two track trails (lined with blueberries!). These trails are easy riding over gently rolling hills. The most challenging ride we took began with a ride on the Algoma Central Railroad to a designated spot

where we jumped off and had the rest of the day to ride home through the woods. A lot of the riding was two track, with excursions through the old Christina Mine and the infamous Gonzo Loop (3 KM of muddy hell).

Searchmont's terrain is excellent for mountain biking. Signs on the trails will improve, but be sure to pack a compass, extra water, and trail snacks in case you get lost for a while. **This is a wilderness mountain biking experience.**

Searchmont's luxury condos sleep six, so bring your friends. The more friends you bring the more money you save. Also, the kitchens are complete (fridge, oven, microwave, dishes, pots/pans). It's a great way to trim cash from the vacation budget. With patios, multiple bathrooms, VCR, and a relaxed atmosphere, Searchmont's

condos allow you to kick back, relax and enjoy the gorgeous Canadian Scenery.

Jim Hilsinger is really going all out to develop Searchmont into a premier mountain biking vacation spot. To make reservations call (705) 781-2340 or write P.O. Box 29 Sault Ste. Marie ONT. CAN. P6A 5N5 winter or summer. They have events scheduled throughout the year.

Getting There: Searchmont is roughly 1 hour North of Canadian Sault Ste. Marie. Leave the city headed North on the Great Northern Highway. Large wooden signs on the right side of the road direct you to the lodge. Buy your groceries in Sault Ste. Marie (we recommend Carlucci's).

Thank You...

By Dwain Abramowski

Thanks are in some cases long overdo, but none the less sincere, for some organizations and individuals, who over the past several years have helped make the MMBA what it is today.

Castelli:

If you have ever sent me (Dwain Abramowski) a fax at the plush, well-lighted, stylishly decorated (with an exercise room and spa no less), suite of offices here in Belmont (well, I can dream can't I...) it is because Castelli has provided the fax machine. I do freelance work for *Michigan Cyclist* and *Cycling Athlete* (Castelli Publications) and when I'm in-between deadlines the fax line is open for MMBA members and any other people or organizations to fax me information related to mountain biking. I also fax out on the Castelli machine. So if you've got a fax from me, don't thank me (or blame me for that matter) thank Castelli. The fax

has help the MMBA make timely responses to many crisis situations over the last 4 years. Without it days and sometimes even weeks, could have passed before some land access or environmental concerns could be attended to throughout Michigan and across the country. In addition to this, Castelli has also been fairly liberal about giving press to MMBA activities and puts a MMBA Membership application in many issues of their bicycling related publications.

This year's Paul Bunyan Mountain Bike Races Series is also notable. From each entry for the winter series of races, Castelli will contribute \$1.00 to the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). You read it right \$1.00. If there are 400 racers that means \$400.00 for the MMBA. If there are 1000 racers for the series that means \$1000.00 for the MMBA. **The MMBA is grateful.** Enjoy their winter mountain bike series and if you see a

Castelli staff member at the race say thank you for helping to keep trails open through the MMBA.

On a personal note: Castelli has also helped me out. Whether you know it or not, I am a writer/photographer by trade. The mean income for *would be writers* like me probably wouldn't buy a thimble full of titanium, but through the last four years Castelli has given me the opportunity to contribute to the needs of mountain biking by making opportunities for me to hone my writing and photography talents in their various biking and non-biking publications. They have always had a very accommodating policy for me to address the needs of the MMBA, while giving me a chance to write and shoot. They have helped plug financial holes in my writing career, so that my wife and I could take a breather every once in awhile as we juggled our financial obligations like everyone must do now-a-days. Thanks Castelli for these things and many other contributions to the needs of the MMBA and me.

(Thanks Cont. Next Page)

Specialized

Most of you may know of *Specialized's* commitment to the racing needs of riders in Michigan as they have sponsored the MMBA Michigan Mountain Biking Association Point Series. Over the last three years they have help make our MMBA State Points Series one of the strongest, competitive and fun series in the country.

However, in 1993-94 they have set a standard of commitment and excellence for the world of mountain biking that very few manufacturers will have the guts,

insight and ability to do, no matter how many thousands of dollars they throw into glossy advertising and smoke screen campaigns about

what great mountain biking/bicycling companies they are. Other companies may give substantial support to IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) which is needed and very well and good. But attention must be given to local needs as preventative maintenance. Otherwise, it's like saving a city from a flood by building a huge dike, meanwhile the city gets flooded out anyway, because there are a thousand leaking holes in the dike.

This past year, for every *Specialized* Dealer in Michigan that joined the MMBA, *Specialized* donated \$100.00 dollars to the MMBA. So far, we've had about ten Michigan *Specialized* dealers join the MMBA. Recently the MMBA received a check from *Specialized* for \$1000.00. This is the type of support that MMBA members need from every major manufacturer to meet the challenges of the 1990's in terms of land access and environmental awareness.

If the MMBA could count on other mountain biking manufacturers to fulfill their commitment to those they sell bikes to in the same way, the land access and environmental awareness

challenges Michigan mountain bikers face could be addressed more efficiently and in some cases eliminated. The outlook for success would be brighter and our association could work harder on the trails and not spend valuable time begging for the bicycle industry to support our efforts to keep the trails open.

Specialized has set the standard (at least in Michigan) by which all other major manufacturers must be judged if they claim they are committed to the sport/recreation of mountain biking. Soon a company that claims to support mountain biking by spending money

... But attention must be given to local needs as preventative maintenance. Otherwise, it's like saving a city from a flood by building a huge dike, meanwhile the city gets flooded out anyway, because there are a thousand leaking holes in the dike.

and time on a "number one racer" in the country might be seen in new light. In the future, the term Number One will be bestowed on those companies that support the very trails that are used by the tens of thousands of mountain bikers out there who could care less about racing. For every recreational racer who may or may not aspire to reach the top of the racing mountain, there are a 100 mountain bikers who are looking for the top of their own personal mountains. It makes very little difference to them who's riding what product, but it makes all the difference if they need to repair/build or maintain a trail and a manufacturer is there saying, "Volunteer and we will support you." There is room for an infinite number of "Number One" manufacturers at the top of the land access mountain, with the chance to affect thousands of mountain bike riders.

Those manufacturers who choose to support the needs of mountain bikers who volunteer their efforts to keep the trails open will be the strong, the few and the best mountain biking companies out there. Those who don't - won't.

Nuke Proof

Big manufacturers all start out small. Nuke Proof is no exception. Nuke Proof has been growing by leaps and bounds and is headed towards becoming a major dude in the bicycle industry by providing a quality product for mountain bikers all around the world. But in terms of land access on their home-turf, Nuke Proof has eclipsed most other "major" manufacturers.

Nuke Proof joined the MMBA as soon as they were on their feet this past year and has been donating a portion of all their T-Shirt sales to the MMBA. This has already meant several hundred dollars to our organization. In addition, Nuke Proof

has encouraged membership in the MMBA by mentioning us in their ads in regional and national publications. By supporting the foundation of mountain biking, the trails and the volunteers who maintain and develop them, Nuke Proof will have the opportunity for unlimited growth. They have invested not only in R&D but in V&E (Volunteers and the Environment).

You're Out There...

There are other MMBA supporters out there too, who if we could list them, would fill up this BRB and perhaps others too. You know who you are. MMBA members, shops and individuals who have done more than your fair share of trail work and sweat to keep the places where you ride open and without threat from the heavy burden of environmental degradation.

Everyone who rides a mountain bike off-road is in your debt. Thank you. Keep up the good work. To Castelli, *Specialized* and Nuke Proof we (MMBA members and all mountain bikers) thank you and we look forward to other manufacturers and bike shops to join the "thank you list" in 1994.

TENTITIVE1994 RACESAPRIL17

CANNONSBURG CHAL.

CANNONSBURG MI

24

IRISH HILLS CHAL.

ONSTED, MI

May1

Yankee Springs MMBA

Benefit

(No Points - lots of fun)

Bradley, MI

16

ADDISON OAKS SPRING

CLASSIC

ROCHESTER, MI

21 & 22

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

THOMPSONVILLE, MI

28 & 29

PANDO CHALLENGE

ROCKFORD, MI

JUNE4 & 5

GARLAND HAMMER

LEWISTON, MI

10 & 12

SLEEPING BEAR NORBA NCS

#2

TRaverse CITY, MI

26

IRISH HILLS

ONSTED, MI

JULY**1994****POINT SERIES**

CARRY HORSE O

Awards - Info

•points tabulated
on Best 7 Races

•19 Classes/3 Deep (57 Total)

•Awards presented at 1995
Annual MMBA Meeting*Important*As always check with Promoter for up-to-date
info on race, time and day...Thank you

MMBA Race Committee

Race training is a privilege

Not a right

Maintain the trials

You train on

Respect the rights

Of other trail users

NOVEMBER5

ICEMAN COMETH

TRaverse CITY, MI

16 & 17

PANDO CHALLENGE

ROCKFORD, MI

AUGUST7

IRISH HILLS CHAL-

LENGE

ONSTED, MI

SEPTEMBER4 & 5

GARLAND HAMMER

LEWISTON, MI

11FORT CUSTER LITTLE
BIG RACE

-EXHIBITION RACE-

(No Points)

KALAMAZOO, MI

18COOL BIG LAP
LEROY, MI24ADDISON OAKS FALL CLASSIC
ROCHESTER, MIOCTOBER9ANNUAL FUN
PROMOTIONS STATE CHAMPION-

SHIPS

NO MMBA POINTS
ROCKFORD, MI16CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE
THOMPSONVILLE, MI23CANNONSBURG CHALLENGE
CANNONSBURG, MI**RACER PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 1994**

Racers in the 1994 Point Series must become a MMBA member to be eligible to participate in the Point Series. In addition, a one time \$5.00 annual fee must be paid prior to any MMBA member being scored in the Point Series. This fee will help guarantee the financial solvency of the Point Series and help insure its future. If we can get volunteers to help, you may be able to join the MMBA or register for the Point Series at the races. But if you want to guarantee your racing fun for 1994, fill out the form on the back page of the BRB. If you joined the MMBA in the middle of or late last year all you need to do is fill out the racer information and send in your \$5.00 and make sure you keep your membership current later on this year. Or better yet...

!!!DO IT NOW!!!

(Some class restructuring has taken place for 1994, it will be explained at the Annual meeting on February 6, 1994 on the campus of the Michigan State University in the Lincoln Room of the Kellogg Center at 2:PM. A racer's age for the 1994 Points Series will be deemed to be his or her age as of the last day of the year (December 31, 1994).

The 10% Club

Your MMBA Membership card is good for 10% off selected bicycle accessories and clothing* at these MMBA Member Bike shops. It's their way of saying thanks for contributing to the land access concerns of your community and state.

By shopping at MMBA Member Bike Shops (whether they participate in the 10% club or not) you also say thanks to the bicycle shop for supporting the Michigan Mountain Biking Association.

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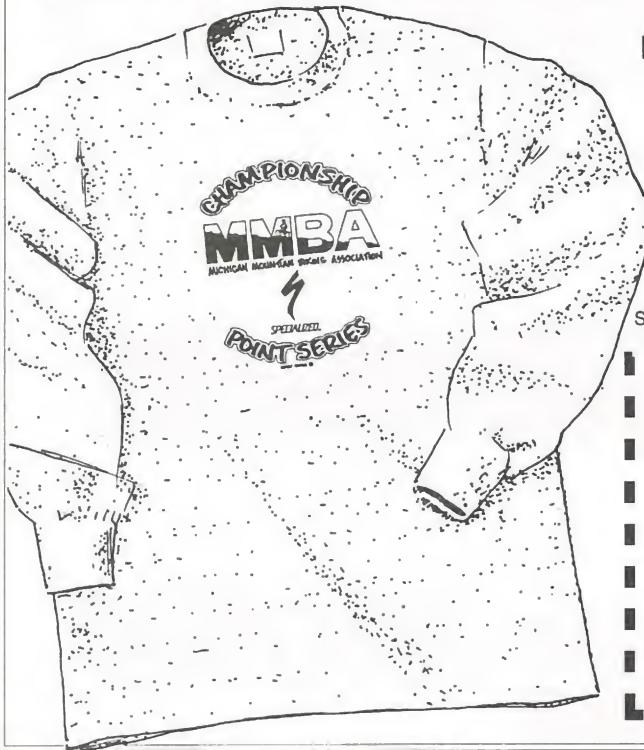
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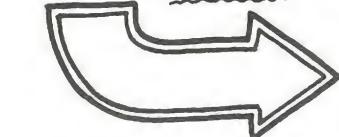
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**** All Ages

1 HARRINGTON, ELISE	7	6.800
2 LYNCH, BRENDA	7	6.208
3 VENTIMIGLIA, DONNA	7	5.207
4 BURFORD, CHERYL	7.	5.104
5 GAUTHIER, LORI	7	4.767
6 SANCHEZ, MARGARET	7	4.423
7 SAVICK, PAM	6	2.550
8 HALTERMAN, HOLLY H.	2	1.125
9 SIELOFF, DEBRA	3	0.450
10 NEIGEBAUER, DIANE	1	0.143
11 CAREY, RHONDA	0	0.000

9 KLEIN, DAN	7	2.633
10 O'REILLY, MIKE	4	2.355
11 CAMPBELL, JAY	6	2.242
12 GIETZEN, CRAIG	6	1.892
13 WALQUIST, BRIAN	6	1.567
14 TRIPP, LEWIS	2	1.167
15 HOLLIS, DAVE	3	0.783
16 CAMP, DON	2	0.708
17 REID, ED	1	0.667
18 GREENE, BRIAN	3	0.500
19 SMIGIEL JR., STEVE	1	0.400
20 MACLEAN, DAVID	0	0.000

Expert

**** Expert I up to 25

1 KRAL, TIMOTHY	7	6.689
2 ZBAWIONY, MICHAEL	7	5.780
3 WEINERT, JEFF	7	5.596
4 BAUMAN, KEVIN	7	4.787
5 SMITH, BRIAN	6	3.473
6 CROY, ERIC	5	3.425
7 HANSEN, CARL	7	3.213
8 WESTER, MATT	3	3.000
9 MILLER, SCOTT	3	1.903
10 DAAB, ZACHARY C.	6	1.265
11 WHEELER, ANDREW C.	3	0.875
12 RAGAN, STEVE	3	0.861
13 ZAVITZ, STEPHEN	1	0.800
14 ROOT, JOHN	1	0.667

**** Expert II 26-34

1 HERMANN, ELKE	7	7.000
2 SCOTT, MARY ANN	7	6.089
3 LEONGAS, SOPHIA	7	5.658
4 WYDRA, SHERI	7	4.884
5 BUERMAN, ANN	5	4.857
6 DREPHUIS, LORI A.	7	4.321
7 MONTAGUE, SHERRY	6	4.200
8 GREENER, CATHERINE	7	3.958
9 MONTAGUE, ROXY	7	2.535
10 STUBER, GAIL	3	1.842
11 CARTER, RITA	5	1.125
12 WHEATLEY, ANNE	1	0.375
13 KRUSE, SUZANNE	1	0.125
14 GLEASON, KATIE	1	0.100
15 GLEASON, BETH	0	0.000
16 SLAVIN, MARY	0	0.000
17 SPENCER, MARILYN	0	0.000

**** Expert Vet 35+

1 REID, ED	7	7.000
2 DALY, MATT	7	6.398
3 FLEMING, ART	7	5.847
4 CAMP, DON	7	5.342
5 MOORE SR., GARY	7	4.668
6 STUBER, STU	7	2.845
7 FERENCE, DAVE	7	1.177
8 BERTHEL, STEVE	4	1.000
9 OLIGEE, GREG	2	0.708
10 GILLAN, PAUL	2	0.667
11 CORDELLA, REINHOLD	0	0.000

Beginner

**** All Ages

1 HERMANN, ELKE	7	7.000
2 SCOTT, MARY ANN	7	6.089
3 LEONGAS, SOPHIA	7	5.658
4 WYDRA, SHERI	7	4.884
5 BUERMAN, ANN	5	4.857
6 DREPHUIS, LORI A.	7	4.321
7 MONTAGUE, SHERRY	6	4.200
8 GREENER, CATHERINE	7	3.958
9 MONTAGUE, ROXY	7	2.535
10 STUBER, GAIL	3	1.842
11 CARTER, RITA	5	1.125
12 WHEATLEY, ANNE	1	0.375
13 KRUSE, SUZANNE	1	0.125
14 GLEASON, KATIE	1	0.100
15 GLEASON, BETH	0	0.000
16 SLAVIN, MARY	0	0.000
17 SPENCER, MARILYN	0	0.000

Michigan-Elite

**** All Ages

1 QUIRING, SCOTT A.	7	7.000
2 KETTERER, KEITH	7	6.675
3 CAREY, DAN	7	5.395
4 CRAMER, MARK	7	5.081
5 HAMMETT, STEVEN	6	4.356
6 DIMENT, SCOTT	6	4.183
7 WESTER, MATT	6	3.275
8 FRITSCH, JOE	7	3.244

Final

WESLITE

Sport

**** All Ages

1 GARVEY, THOMAS	0	0.000
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**** Junior up to 17

1 TYSZKA, BENJAMIN	7	7.000
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2 MOORE JR., GARY	7	6.750
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3 O'BRIEN, MIKE	4	2.534
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4 KOZLOWSKI, MIKE	3	1.733
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5 TERZO, COREY	3	1.517
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6 YLINEN, CARL	4	1.499
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7 HORTON, DOUGLAS D.	1	1.000
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8 SHETTLER, DAVE	0	0.000
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**** Senior I 18-25

1 TAORMINA, DAVE	7	6.784
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2 MATHEWS, RYAN	7	6.326
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3 COLFLESH, JIM	7	6.214
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4 ADAMS, BRIAN	7	5.816
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5 MAIN, CHRIS	7	4.826
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6 SCHUT, CHAD	7	4.455
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7 KELLY, JAY T.	5	3.039
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8 LEE, DON	7	2.638
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9 BAUDUC, JAY PHILLIPE	7	2.566
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10 GARDULSKI, MIKE	7	2.123
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11 COMMENT, JAMES	7	1.973
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12 RICKARD, CALVIN	7	1.735
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13 BAUMAN, KEVIN	1	1.700
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14 FERRIGON, ANTHONY	2	1.271
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15 ZAVITZ, STEPHEN	1	1.000
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16 TERZO, COREY	1	0.500
-----------------	---	-------

17 KANE, KEVIN	3	0.436
----------------	---	-------

18 LAPLANTE, STEVEN M.	1	0.182
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19 NOWAK, JOHN	1	0.143
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20 MCQUEEN, DOUG	0	0.000
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21 ITALIA, BILL	0	0.000
-----------------	---	-------

22 KOCHANEK, DAN	0	0.000
------------------	---	-------

23 SCHROYER JR, GARY	0	0.000
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24 SCHNEIDER, PAUL	0	0.000
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**** Senior II 26-34

1 DANFORTH, GREG	7	6.933
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2 WEISSERT, ULRICH H.	7	6.404
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3 FRAILEY, MIKE	7	5.800
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4 WEBER, STEVE	7	5.427
----------------	---	-------

5 CORNELL, DOUGLAS	7
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Contact Tom Nell
(313) 682-5456 or
Diane James
(313) 889-3275 If
You Have A Question
Or Write:
MMBA/Race Comm.
2528 Elizabeth Lk. Rd.
Waterford, MI 48328

Annual Meeting

**February 6, 1994, At The
Kellogg Center on the Campus
of Michigan State University**

The 1994 Annual meeting will be held on February 6, 1994 on the campus of Michigan State University, in the Lincoln Room, of the Kellogg Center (on the corner of Harrison Road and Grand River).

All current MMBA members will receive a free ticket (at the door to the meeting) to win a Specialized bike worth at least \$499.00. Yes, a free ticket for you at the annual meeting. You may buy more tickets for a \$1.00 each the day of the meeting. **You Must Be Present To Win.** Info call (616) 784-9327. Non-MMBA members can buy tickets the day of the event. But if you're not an MMBA member then you'll miss the most important thing of all - a chance to help keep trails open and forests green and healthy.

Who will be at the annual meeting: Everybody who is somebody LIKE YOU!

Agenda:

-MMBA Points Series Award
Winners will be Celebrated Guest **Speakers** will include:

- A spokesman from the DNR, talking about "the pay to play" concept why it might work - why it won't
- Dale Hughes, Chairman of NORBA, he will be talking about the promoters association called MORBA (Michigan Off-Road Biking Association).
- Annual Bike and Parts Swap
- Informational Booths from a wide variety of Bike Shops and Recreational Interests.

And more...

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JANUARY

23-WINTER ROLER RACE SERIES
MUSKEGON, MI

29-PAUL BUNYAN MOUNTAIN
BIKE SERIES
YANKEE SPRINGS, MI

30-WINTER ROLLER RACE
SERIES
GRAND RAPIDS, MI

FEBRUARY

13-PAUL BUNYAN MOUNTAIN
BIKE SERIES
GAYLORD, MI

20-WINTER ROLLER RACER
SERIES
KALAMAZOO, MI
MARCH

6-PAUL BUNYAN MOUNTAIN
BIKE SERIES
PONTIAC LAKES - PONTIAC, MI

APRIL

7-WILD WOMAN
KALKASKA, MI

MAY

HIGHLAND HAMMER
RIVERVIEW
BELLE ISLE MARATHON
DETROIT, MI

JUNE

5-BLOOMER PARK
ROCHESTER, MI

JULY

10-HIGHLAND HAMMER
RIVERVIEW, MI

24-BLOOMER PARK
ROCHESTER
31-PONTIAC LAKE
PONTIAC, MI

16-CYCLOCROSS/MTB
22-HIGHLAND HAMMER
RIVERVIEW, MI

AUGUST

28-PINES CHALLENGE
VALPARAISO IND
INDIANA - FUN PROMOTIONS
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NOVEMBER

13-CYCLOCROSS/MTB
RODCHESTER, MI

IN THE PLANNING STAGES

MARCH

ITHICA RACES
ITHICA, MICHIGAN
CONTACT
FUN PROMOTIONS
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POTAWATOMI CHAPTER

The Potawatomi Trail of the Pinckney Recreation area had two very successful events this past fall. First the, **Triple Trail Challenge**. The first time event attracted about "138 riders", according to Jon LaBossiere Park Manager of the Pinckney Recreations area. "We had three different routes, two difficult and one very easy route. One difficult route was 26 miles, the other was 42 miles and used the Lakelands Rail-Trail, parts of the Potawatomi Trail and parts of the Waterloo/Pinkney Trail. The easiest route use the Lakelands Rail-Trail and gravel and dirt county roads."

LaBossiere explained, "The easy ride attracted families and riders we don't usually see out here. I believed it helped that the event was non-competitive." The Potawatomi trail can see as many as a 1000 riders or more during a week in the spring, summer and fall. "The non-competitiveness of it all help get riders out here to ride in all three events," LaBossiere said.

Chapter Chatter...



Flipping pancakes , Jim Labell at the Potofest, makes the Poto a better place to ride.

(C.C. Cont. On Page 13)

MMBA SHOP AND MANUFACTURER MEMBERS

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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(313) 682-5456

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(408) 395-1948

*Michigan Manufacturer and/or Manufacturer who has contributed more than a minimum donation in support of mountain biking in Michigan. Thank you.

Please Note: In a recent Dealer Membership Drive we have received some new dealer support and they will be noted in the next BRB.

Thank You very much!

(C.C. Cont. From Page 11)

The goal of the ride was to get people out here to have fun. It was also a fund-raiser for the trail and several hundred dollars was raised for trail maintenance according to LaBossiere.

You can look for the event next year to have even more emphasis on fun, and the route will be more accommodating to the riders choice of easy or challenging. Look for more information on the **Triple-Trail-Challenge** in upcoming articles.

The Potawatomi also saw another Poto-fest and Pancake Breakfast this past fall. It was attended by several hundred riders throughout the day.

The weather was cold and grey, but once everyone got out on the trail they seemed to have a good time according to LaBossiere, "There were more people this year. Next year however we're going to 'dare to be great' and once we get approval from Lansing we hope to make the event a Halloween type celebration, with prizes for the best costume for both riders and hikers, best shoes, best whatever to have some fun. We want to get people to come out and play at the area."

This years Poto-fest was also a fund-raiser and money from the pancake breakfast will be given back to the trail also. Finally LaBossiere said that the most important thing is, "for trail users to put their best foot [or tire] forward when using the Poto. Using the

trail safely, not littering and showing respect for all trail users." Look for more to come in 1994 on the Poto and the 1994 events.

Western Michigan Chapter:

The west Michigan chapter of the MMBA would like to continue our "thank you list" that we started in the first issue of the *MMBA Chapter Newsletter* back in November. We'd like to highlight the efforts of two of our local member shops.

The owner of Bicycles Etc. has spent many hours, in between our scheduled maintenance dates, at the Cannonsburg State Game Area taking care of the trail by trimming back the brush, and taking care of the menacing twigs that seem to always fall in the most inappropriate places!

Next we can't go without thanking Breakaway Bicycles for hosting the Yankee Springs Race this past May. The races raised \$1,200.00 for the Yankee Springs Trail Fund and has enabled us to print maps of the area (7,000 to be exact) and hopefully next season we can expand the parking lot and signs on the trails with the funds.

Helmets off to both shop owners for making a difference in our local trail system. Look for more thanks and info on the status of Aman park in the next MMBA Chapter Newsletter.

Southeast Chapter News:

It final! Bud Pell who has spearheaded the effort to work with Mayberry State Park officials to develop a mountain biking trail in Mayberry contacted the MMBA offices with the news that the DNR said, "OK". The plan Bud shared with the MMBA Board at our last meeting has been accepted by the DNR and plans are underway to put in the trail soon. Look for more information on this success story in the next issue of the MMBA Newsletter or call (616) 784-9327.

Mid-Michigan Chapter:

The Mid-Michigan Chapter of the MMBA has been busy all summer making Island Lake State Recreation area one of the best rides in southeastern Michigan. All the while they have been working, Dennis Hansen, the chapter president has been sending me updates and information about what has

been going on and what he has been sharing with his local chapter. If I were the least bit organized I would have been sharing this information with you on a more timely basis. However, I'm about as organized as snowflakes in a blizzard and Dennis sends me more information and detailed itineraries than the Space Shuttle Crew receives before lift-off. If you've got a question Dennis has the answer. But I am going to make sure I get one thing down here in this article, and that is those who have done the work at Island Lake: Martin & Morress Mayer, Al Johnson, Kirt Westphal, Sandy Davison, Randy Blankenship, Dennis Hansen, Chet Crishel, Dave Goodnough, Glen Gates, Robin Scurr, Gary Anderson, Ric Williams, Gary Moore, Gary Moore Jr., Gary Purdy, Joy Purdy, Gary Campbell, Peg Gutmann, Scott Helmke, Jeannine Gruska, Anita Lynn Bergen, Ron Zeeb, Larry Hatfield, Carl Calille, Jim LaBell, Reinhold Cordella, Mark Cavanaugh, Stephanie Hansen, Steve Gaker, Dave Jessop and if I missed any of you, thank you on behalf of all Michigan Mountain bikers. (I am sure Dennis will point it out if I did!)

Another fantastic achievement that the Mid-Michigan chapter does is get me the minutes of their monthly meetings (thanks Lynn Bergen).

Promptly and well written. These guys/gals are unbelievable. If you would like a copy contact the MMBA at (616) 784-9327. Heck, they're suitable for framing on your wall! Keep up the good work!

Pontiac Lakes:

The Pontiac Lakes Chapter of the MMBA has been busy keeping the trail at Pontiac Lakes in top form and getting ready to have an event on the trail this winter as part of the **Paul Bunyan Winter Mountain Bike Series** (see the Events Calendar).

The Pontiac Lakes Chapter has also been working with the Southeast Chapter on developing a mountain biking plan for Highland Recreation Area. By this spring things should be in place to start planning a trail and lining up volunteers to develop it. For more information check the DNR story on page 2 of this issue of the BRB.

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-Annual Bike and Parts Swap

-Informational Booths from a wide variety of Bike Shops and Recreational Interests.

And more...

Win a Specialized Mt. Bike!

-For Your Inspection-

Possible new MMBA Logos

Some MMBA Members want a new one

Some don't

What do you think? Check out the cool new logos at the Annual Meeting and give your opinion - vote for your favorite!

Annual Meeting

WE WANT YOU



AND YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN THE MMBA

THIS CONTEST IS SIMPLE, THE MMBA MEMBER WHO COLLECTS, LASSOOS, TACKLES AND/OR GATHERS THE MOST NEW MEMBERS... **WINS!!**

Here's the deal: Between now and April 1, 1994 get as many members as you can to join the MMBA and the person who gets the most people to join will win a super prize worth over \$150.00. What will the prize be? Find out at the Annual Meeting on the date listed on page 14 (look on page 14 now, pronto, immediately, quickly, before you forget, without delay...).

Here's all you do:

1. Make copies of the application on the back of this BRB
2. Fill in the Member Maker ID with your name and phone number.
3. Get members to join by April 1, 1994.

If you are the winner you'll appear in a future issue of the BRB and MMBA Chapter newsletters and will have the added satisfaction of knowing you made the MMBA that much stronger and better to meet the new of all mountain bikers in Michigan.

Grand Island - You Might As Well Stay Home...If you're a Wimp!

By Jack McHugh

First Annual Grand Island Mountain Bike Rendezvous

- "A high of only 30, with snow showers possible."
- "Record cold this weekend. You might as well stay home and watch TV."
- "If you go mountain bike riding in the U.P. this weekend, you may DIE!"

So spoke the weatherman in the week preceding the October 2, 1993 First Annual Grand Island Mountain

Bike Rendezvous. Instead of the expected 30-40 riders, nine-diehards actually did show up, got snowed on, and had a great time. (Not coincidentally, all nine had the knowledge, equipment, and confidence that comes from also being cross-country skiers.)

Actually, conditions weren't as bad as predicted. The southern half of the nine-mile long island was partly sunny with temperatures in the upper thirties.

The northern half was a whole different climate - snow squalls with accumulation, and a driving wind. Leaves were still on the trees, and as they became weighted with snow, branches drooped across the single rut trail which runs up the eastern side of the island. By the time we reached the north point we were wet and our feet and hands were cold, but everyone could still recite their multiplication tables (as well as they usually can, anyway, "2 x 2 is...is..."), and we had no genuine cold casualties.

We did decide to return down the wide road in the middle of the island, rather than taking on more snowy saplings and the chance of a hurricane west wind along the spectacular cliff-lined western shore.

Half way back to Echo Lake, the sun came out and it actually started looking pretty nice. With serval hours before the return ferry, we built a hot little hardwood fire by the shore line, and brewed up a pot of hot cocoa. Several bikers successfully defied that rule of nature which states that, "half of all gear dried by a campfire eventually gets burned" and by boat-time everyone was feeling quite human.

One treat was left though. In the oak groves near the landing three black bears made an appearance, including a mama with two small looking cubs. They were much more interested in acorns than us. I approached with a can of pepper spray in one hand and a camera in the other, but they ducked into the woods before I got close enough for a picture. No doubt they knew the boat schedule as well as we did, and twenty minutes later they were surely back to their nut-fest.

We haven't ordered any "I survived..." T-shirts yet, but nine individuals who were strangers that morning now share the camaraderie of mutual adversity. We looked forward to future "Grand Island Rendezvous", when we will say to the scores of fellow riders who turn out for a fine-weather ride, "You should have been here for the FIRST Annual..."

Thanks to Dick Anderson of the Munising Ranger District, who was on

(Continued on Next page)

the dock at 8:00 AM to distribute maps of the Forest Service's new mountain bike paradise, located on and around the Valley Spur Ski Trail. Dick rode the boat over with us, passing along information on the island and answering questions. Sympathy also goes out to the two young fishermen who didn't bring bikes, and observed us exploring the entire island while they sweated to see just a bit of it. Word is, they are bringing bikes next time.

Set your clock for the first weekend in October, 1994. Assuming the Forest Service doesn't do something stupid, and the weather isn't TOO bad (whatever that is), we'll be back on the island with our bikes. (Ed. note: Hey, Jack how about a review of Valley Spur this spring?)

...Fame & Glory ...Fame & Glory ...Fame & Glory ...Fame &...

The Mountain Biking Hall of Fame & Museum will celebrate its sixth birthday in 1994. The officers of the Hall of Fame and Museum are seeking nomination of individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions to the sport of mountain biking. These nominees should have enriched the sport in one of five categories: Founding Parents, Journalism, Industry, Competition or Promotion.

All nominations should be received by the Hall of Fame NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 1994. Persons who nominate are encouraged to provide a complete profile of their candidate so that the candidate can be fairly judged by the membership. The nominees will receive votes from the members to determine the five inductees for 1994.

Their primary driving force is to preserve the history of this rapidly changing sport and provide an avenue to finding those persons who patterned mountain biking history. They are looking for candidates both nationally and internationally. They

Vitamin B6*

What it does: Contributes to formation of red blood cells and infection-fighting antibodies; essential for protein metabolism and absorption.

Health Claims: May Prevent some decline in immunity, especially in the healthy elderly.

Overdose: Tingling and/or shooting pain in arms, legs; numbness in feet, hands; depression; headaches; fatigue; difficulty walking..

Good Sources: Baked or boiled potatoes (w/skin), bananas, navy beans, soybeans, sunflower seeds, watermelon.

*Always consult your doctor-source F.C.

INSIDE MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING - SINGLE TRACK FEVER

-It's mountain biking in Michigan on the Tube!

-Coverage of most of the MMBA 1993 Points Series races.

-Interviews with people who are most involved with today's mountain biking related issues.

-Hot mountain biking videos

-Hot "Bike of the Month Reviews"

-Answers to life's most puzzling question*

-plus lots more!

-You gotta see it!

Look for it on your local TCI cable access channel!**

Producer Renee Berrara

*What is life most puzzling question anyway?

**TCI cable systems serve about 350,000 homes in the Michigan area including areas in and/or around Detroit, Grand Rapids and other communities in Michigan. Check with your cable company today! Ask for: Inside Michigan Mountain Biking- Single Track Fever!

encourage you to nominate the person you consider most outstanding in this sport.

They also encourage each of you to visit the Hall of Fame & Museum in Crested Butte. With your support the Museum has grown and the number of visitors increases every year. They have averaged 4,000 visitors per month during the summer of 1993.

For more information on the Mountain Biking Hall of Fame & Museum write: P.O Box 845 Crested Butte, Colorado 81224 or call (303) 349-7382.

Volunteers Needed For Bike Tour

How does riding your bike 275 miles for a week sound? Pretty exciting: Rails-to-Trails Michigan Chapter in conjunction with the Detroit Free Press is sponsoring the 3rd annual *Michigander*: Michigan's only 6 day FAT TIRE tour. Last year 1,500 riders

participated and we anticipate more this year.

We need volunteers to help with all aspects of the tour including route planning, SAG service, food, registration, etc. What you get in return for volunteering is the option to ride on tour for free, meals, and staff T-shirts. Plus you meet lots of great people and have a great time.

We need people now to help with the planning committee in addition to volunteers needed during the ride. The ride takes place on July 23-29 and will be primarily on undeveloped rail trails and back roads.

Please call the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy office at (517) 393-6022 for more information on how to get involved!

When there is a piano to be moved, don't pick up the stool..

Reality Check Time:

From Jim Hightower/AlterNet-

...I wonder if you caught Nike's special television ad this summer paying homage to baseball.

It's a compelling ad, even beautiful, despite it's stark setting in a dusty, hard section of the Dominican Republic. It features impoverished but bright-eyed boys in ragtag clothes-playing ball.

A Nike spokesman says the ad sends "a powerful message of hope to kids that through baseball they can dream."

It's a nice sentiment.

Now travel with me some 15,000 miles east of there, halfway around the globe to another hardscrabble place with impoverished people: Tangerang, Indonesia.

Here bright-eyed young girls probably have dreams too. But they're in factories working six days a week for 15 cents an hour- a poverty wage, even in this poor country.

They work for Nike.

Girls like Tri Mugiyanti, who shares a room with three other workers

in a slum about a mile from the factory. She sleeps on a bamboo mat on the floor. When Tri wants to cook or bathe, she has to pump water from an outside well.

The factory is even more unpleasant, reeking with paint and glue fumes that burn the eyes, throats and lungs of workers. The place is crammed with 6,700 young women like Tri Mugiyanti, making shoes such as Nike's \$70.00 a pair "Air Pegasus". It takes Tri more than two months to earn \$70.00. Out of the \$70.00 price tag on the Nikes...the people who made them got 21 cents.

Nike which makes nearly \$4 billion a year selling shoes-all of them made by cheap labor outside the U.S.-fashions itself as a caring corporation that stresses "quality of life" and self-empowerment.

Nike spends millions to get everyone from superstar Michael Jordan to young baseball dreamers in the Dominican Republic telling us to "Just do it!"

But Nike can't hide Tri Mugiyanti..and what it's doing for money. (From Summer Issue of *Northern Express*)

You can call it whatever you want...It's still white and mostly heavy...

Snow Squall: a mega-flurry with all the promises of a blizzard.
Blizzard: lots of snow and wind.
Sugar Snow: fine kernels of loose, frozen snow: bourgeois powder.
Drifts: Heavy, dense snow, windblown and deposited on the leeward side of buildings, hedges, snow and fences.
Often suitable for building igloos.
Feathers: super-light large flakes.
Chop: low-quality snow, often called frozen granular.
Glop: a 2-foot dump after two 40 degree days.

Cascade concrete: the thickest, wettest, lumpiest crud. Generally found in Pacific Northwest areas. Resembles Sierra Cement, only thicker. Imported to Michigan in the Spring.

Michigan Powder: a light dusting, usually of no depth, which the ski resorts claim is several feet deep at their reports.

Lake Effect: whenever what is forecasted by the weather person turns out to be the complete and utter opposite of what was stated - it's lake effect.
Usually the best times to ride is when they are forecasting any of the above.

If the forecast is sunny and 70 degree. Stay home.

**YOU'RE NOT KEEPING
YOUR ADDRESS A
SECRET, ARE YOU?**



WHEN YOU MOVE LET THE MMBA
KNOW SO YOUR INFO KNOWS
WHERE TO GO!

The Weather Outside Is...

Some radarless thoughts on the weather:

-Mackerel sky, five mile high
Lets the earth go three days dry.

-If it rain before Seven,
It will quit before eleven.

-Thunder in the morning, all day
storming.

Thunder at night is the sailor's delight.

-Evening red and morning gray
will speed the traveler on his way;
Evening gray and morning red
Will bring the rain upon his head.

-A sunshiny shower
Never lasts an hour.

Cloud talk:

-In the morning, mountains,
In the evening, fountains.

-If woolen fleeces spread the heavenly
way,

Be sure no rain disturbs the summer day.

In the morning:

-When the dew is on the grass
Rain will never come to pass.

-With dew before midnight,
The next day will sure be bright.

-When the grass is dry at morning light
Look for rain before the night.

Happy New Year:

-If New Year's Eve night wind blow south
It betokeneth warmth and growth: If west,
much milk, and fish in the sea; If north,
much cold and storms there will be. If
east,
the trees will bear much fruit; If north-
east,
flee it man and brute!

Moon-stuck:

-Pale Moon doth rain,
Red Moon doth blow,
White Moon doth neither rain nor snow.

-If the Moon shows a silver shield,
Be not afraid to reap your field;
But if she rises haloed round,
Soon we'll tread on deluged ground.
-Clear Moon, frost soon.

"Everything the Power of the
world does is done in a circle.
The sky is round and I have heard
that the earth is round like a ball
and so are the stars. The wind in
its greatest power whirls..."

Rolling Thunder

(Rolling Cont. from pg. 2)

Hey, wait a minute. Isn't Ithaca as flat as one page of Homer's Odyssey? Instead of Ithaca being a home of deities, isn't it the home of a broad cross-section of Mid-America's farming finest? Furthermore, wasn't Odysseus into the ti thing for his shields or something?

Yes. Odysseus was into ti after all, he was a God...on the other hand a forward thinking city manager in the Michigan town of Ithaca decided to let the historians debate the ramifications of ti in Greek mythology and has set off on the ambitious Odyssey of making mountain biking a reality in his city.

Just south of the "downtown" of Ithaca is some city property that has been unused and abused for many years. It butts up against a fairgrounds and horse stable and track facility that is used to stage events periodically throughout the year. The land that is being developed for mountain biking is a combination of brushy scrub growth, some grassy fields, mature hardwood stands and small ravines and creek-beds. Taken as a whole there, is only about a 100 acres, but because of the wide variety of growth on the land and the density of some of that growth, there are a lot of possibilities. The most important part of the property being that the city wants to "develop mountain biking/multi-use trails on the land" according to Troy Feltman, City Manager of Ithaca. There is even one small elevation rise near the entrance to the park that will take some of the flat out of the description of Ithaca.

Mr. Feltman contacted the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) last month requesting information on the design and development of mountain biking trails. Dennis Hansen from the Mid-Michigan Chapter (and myself) met with the Mr. Feltman and several interested people from the area on a cold November morning and began the trail development process by scrutinizing a photographed aerial map of the potential trail sight.

After getting a feel for the layout, an on-sight inspection of the property revealed that there had been severe damage done to the trails that had developed over a period of many, many years by ORV activity and dump trucks from the fairgrounds/horse track discarding manure on various locations throughout the site. Mr. Feltman indicated that he would instruct the city work crews to fill/repair the damaged areas and to barricade the property entrances to allow only non-motorized entry.

The walk on the property by the

"trail development team" took several hours even though the acreage was not that big. It was determined by Dennis Hanson, that if trials were laid out properly, so as to utilize the natural seclusion the heavy brush and scrub growth and small ravines, perhaps as much as 6 to 8 miles of trail could be developed on the property.

Another unique feature of the development is that the city owns another piece of property on the other side of the city that also holds the possibility for non-motorized development. The trail development group discussed and developed a scenario by which the two properties could be connected by a road ride making for a good day ride and/or a foot trail exploration and outing when it is finished. Right now however, the group is centering its efforts on the one property with a scheduled opening date and celebration event by the first of March in 1994.

According to Chet Crisher, a "local" resident (he lives in Alma several miles to the north) and volunteer on the trail development project, the trail is going to be named the "Jailhouse Trail", because

of a historic, if not a bit dilapidated, "turn of the century Jailhouse, that was moved from its central city location to the undeveloped city property, when a new jail was built." At one time there were plans to make a model historic village on the property using the abandoned Jailhouse, but the plans never materialized.

Over the last several weeks before the snow, Chet and a dedicated core of volunteers, who have named themselves (and all those who want to join) the Gratiot Recreation Trails Association, have marked about 6 miles of trail. They are hoping that the local schools and community will get involved with the trail development project. It has the potential of being a major part of Ithaca recreational development as the 1990's unfold.

To get involved in the Odyssey of trail building and help put Ithaca on the mountain biking maps of Michigan contact:

Chet Crisher

236 Ely

Alma Mi 48801

(517) 463-8259

Or Terry's Cycle and Sport (517)

463-5260

managed over thirty miles per hour for almost a mile! But still, that was nothing compared to Bruno's run.

Bruno's Run is a ride similar to Pontiac Lake but with better scenery and without the rocks! If that doesn't help explain it to you Bruno's is a winding, moderately hilly trail, that takes you around six or seven small lakes, over a couple of little wooden bridges, and through forest unlike any you'll see in lower Michigan. There's even an old-growth Hemlock forest in one section, with Hemlocks as tall as the biggest trees at Potawatomi. For the most part, the trail is smooth and flat and covered with either pine needles or leaves from last fall. You won't be crying for Rock Shox's at the end of this ride! But, above all, the scenery is breath taking.

On the road into Munising from the south (M-28) take highway 13 (about two miles outside of town) and head due south for another ten miles. You'll run into Pete's Lake Recreation Area, which is a campground with a picnicking and swimming area. At the edge of the parking lot, you'll find a map of Bruno's run, and you'll see the

(Bruno cont. next page)

Bruno's Run of Munising Just Like Pontiac Lake...

Without The Rocks

By Steve Lehto

Pack up as soon as possible this spring, and head to Munising, MI. Within the immediate area of Munising (in the Upper Peninsula, on the shore of Lake Superior) are two unique mountain Biking areas, unlike anything down here: Grand Island and Bruno's Run. I know, because I went there in August, expecting Grand Island to be the highlight of the trip. Grand was an experience, but Bruno's Run is what I rave about to my friends now that I'm back in the office.

Grand Island, of course, is the new acquisition of the Park Service. A beautiful island, approximately 20 miles around highlighted by cliffs, trails and beaches, almost all without any trace of people. There's even a downhill stretch (the western most unmaintained dirt road) where we

(DNR Cont. from pg. 2)

Chief Scherschligt talked with the Park Manager and MMBA volunteers after they returned to the Park Manager's headquarters. There was a lot of discussion about the needs of not only Island Lake, but many other parks in the metro area of Detroit as well as Yankee Springs near Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo. Chief Scherschligt wanted to know the needs of the parks as the MMBA volunteers saw it. Before the meeting and talks were over dollar amounts were discussed and what the DNR could realistically afford. This is how the figures broke down:

Potawatomi Trial-Pickney Recreation area should receive approximately \$20,000 to repair several neglected wash-outs and trail sections in need of re-routing.

Highland Recreation Area was sited for developmental funds, though no exact amount was determined. Chief Scherschligt asked that the MMBA contact and coordinate efforts with the Recreation Director at Highland and Mr. Ingraham to develop a plan that would take advantage of the unique and diverse terrain that makes up Highland Recreation Area. You can contact the Pontiac Lake or Southeast Chapter of the MMBA if you would like to get involved with this project. We have a chance to get in on the ground floor and suggest the best concepts and designs for mountain bike trail system in Highland. Call (616) 784-9327 for more information.

Pontiac Lake will receive several thousands of dollars to continue the cooperative efforts of the Park Management and the Pontiac Lake Chapter of the

(Bruno cont. from last page)

first sign. The trail was originally designed for cross country skiing I'm told, and we even met two hikers the day we were there. Otherwise, we saw absolutely no one that entire day.

The trail is seven miles long according to the Forest Service, although my Vetta measured it closer to nine. (We may have made a few detours though, because we're doing a bit of sight-seeing.) If you'd like a map of Bruno's, call the Forest Service in Munising (906) 387-2512 and ask for one. (I even got the nice Forest Service people to fax me on, but I had to beg.) The trail is also exceptionally well-marked. If you ever get into this area of the UP, check out Bruno's Run: it's easily one of the best trials in the state for mountain biking.

MMBA to continue the development and work already well under way.

Island Lake is to receive several thousand dollars also, to build some structures over wet areas, reroute trails and continue to develop the signing program that has unfolded this past summer. As the trails at Island lake developed over the summer the numbers enjoying the trails have also grew. There are about 12 miles of multi-use trail to be shared.

Yankee Springs Recreation Area will get money to complete the parking lot at the Deep Lake recreation area and to continue trail-bed enhancements that began last summer. The Western Michigan Chapter of the MMBA with the diligent help of Steve Miller and Breakaway Bicycles of Kalamazoo raised about \$1000 last spring to help with the parking lot development at Yankee Springs.

The money has the potential of making great multi-use trails into fantastic trails. But there will be one ingredient if not added, it will severely limit the effects of the DNR's commitment to excellent trail facilities. That ingredient is you. Without your volunteer efforts the money will run out before the needs of the trails. If you want great trails you are going to have to volunteer one day to the trails. This will have the added benefit of showing the DNR that if they commit the money to make the trails better, we'll commit the time. Money and time (volunteer) are the two most precious elements in trail maintenance and development. If you don't believe me, don't show up and make sure you buy yourself a road bike, cause you'll need it.

How Should Mountain Bikers Greet the Spring?

Thoughts by David Dutmer/Trail Maintenance Coordinator Western Chapter of the MMBA.

A new challenge presents itself to mountain bikers in early spring in the form of ground freezing and thawing. I suggest a panel of five or more mountain bikers, DNR officials and others, be formed for any sensitive trail to determine when a particular trail system is to be opened or closed due to seasonal changes. This panel would personally investigate trails and receive information from MMBA members about trail conditions.

Information received would be set to bike shops, newspapers and land managers, along with a phone number for local or state trail conditions. Starting March 1 through April 30 inspections should be on a weekly basis, thereafter bi-monthly.

What does your chapter do? What is the policy of land management on the trails where you ride? Will your riding habits keep the trails open or closed?

Untitled

You Hammer thru the woods as fast as you can-

Not stopping for animal, bird or man-

I pity the hiker that gets in your way-

Or riders out to enjoy a beautiful day-

Your head is down, you never look up-

You expect others to jump at the sound of your "Hup!"

Never a pause - you pant on and on-
Is this a race - have you won?

Have you thought that we all may lose-

the right to ride on the trails you use-

But the worst part it seems to me-
is the beauty of nature you're failing to see...

MMBA Member



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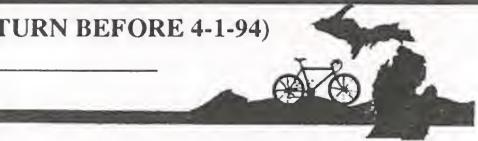
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(or more) (or more)

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Racing in the MMBA Championship Points Series? Add \$5.00 per rider in the Points Series to the regular membership fee and complete the following:

Riders Name(s) *BIRTH DATE(S) **Racing Class(s)

*THIS MUST BE FILL OUT TO RACE IN THE MMBA POINTS SERIES

**From the following: Beginner, Sport, Expert, Elite

Membership Includes:

- Subscription to the Bent Rim Bugle (the MMBA mountain biking publication which comes out 4 times a year, with info, race flyers, pictures, chapter info - etc.)
- Updates on D.N.R. and other trail issues
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- You can participate in the MMBA Championship Point Series (\$5.00 Tabulation Fee-SEE ABOVE)
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 Waterford, MI 48328

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 P.O. Box 29
 Belmont, MI 49306

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